



(Photo by Staff Sgt. Angela McKinzie, 2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs)

**Pvt. Arthur Rocha (right), an infantryman with the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment "Polar Bears," 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (LI), and native of Fertile, Minn., searches a haystack for hidden weapons in Qarghulli Village, Iraq, Nov. 25.**

## Polar Bears air assault into terrorist safe haven

**By Staff Sgt. Angela McKinzie  
2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs**

QARGHULI VILLAGE, Iraq - Qarghulli Village has long been known as a safe haven for terrorists. For several months the area had not been patrolled by U.S. forces because of the danger it posed. Knowing the high enemy threat in the area did not stop Commando Brigade infantrymen from going in.

Soldiers from the Company D, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment "Polar Bears," 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (LI), teamed up with soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, to conduct an air assault mission, Operation Polar Black Diamond, into Quarghuli Village on the early morning of Nov. 25.

As the Soldiers boarded one of the four helicopters that took them from Mahmudiyah, Iraq, to Qarghuli Village they shared their thoughts of the mission.

"I think this mission will help to eliminate the terrorist activity in the area," said Sgt Jereme Brown, a 4-31 infantryman and native of Moody, Ala. "We are going in there to make it a safer place for the Iraqi people."

When the Soldiers landed to their interim destination they found themselves on some of the most unforgiving terrain. They had to push through canals, muddy fields and even across barbed wire.

After seven hours of foot marching the Soldiers had finally reached their destination - the battle position they had to establish.

As soon as the Soldiers arrived to their new home they immediately started pulling security and patrolling the local

See **Bears** Page 4

## Tankers make best of home away from home

**By Sgt. 1st Class Kap Kim  
2-1 Cav. Public Affairs**

BAGHDAD - A convoy through the busy streets of Baghdad is not the usual Sunday drive, but for a group of tanker Soldiers it is a normal Sunday duty.

For a group of tankers assigned to 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, now attached to the 2nd Brigade

Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, their mission of relieving their fellow tankers at an observation point Nov. 12 was a quiet drive and without any fanfare.

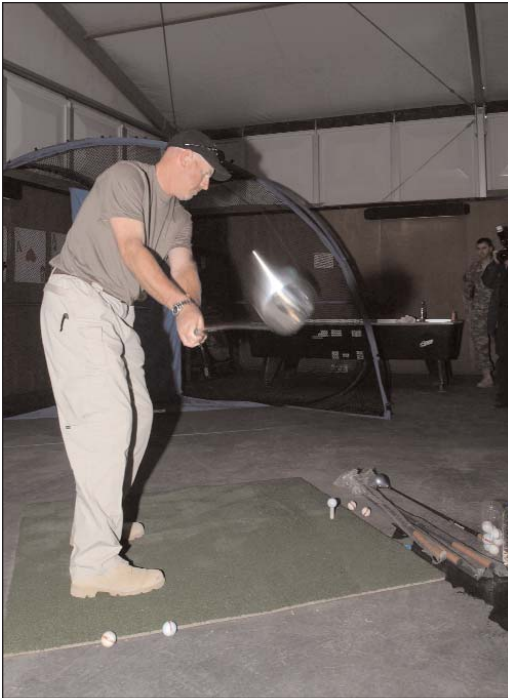
According to Sgt. 1st Class Christopher West, a platoon sergeant assigned to Company A, their mission, although important, comes with very little "excitement."

Their mission is kept a secret due to safety concerns. Their location is also kept

unknown due to their mission.

For two weeks at a time, the tankers live and operate in an area roughly the size of a football field. The amenities are very few. From their living quarters to their shower and bathroom facilities, they all have taken a crash course in carpentry to make life out in the middle of nowhere a

See **Tankers** Page 3



(Photo by Pfc. M. Benjamin Gable, 7th MPAD)

**Frank Lickliter II, who has six top-10 finishes in his PGA career, demonstrates driving skills for Soldiers Nov. 23 in Baghdad. He also showed Soldiers a few trick shots to add to their game.**

## Soldiers meet top golfers, tee it up

**By Pfc. M. Benjamin Gable  
7th MPAD**

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq - Soldiers gathered late Thanksgiving eve together with Professional Golfing Association Tour professionals and long drivers at the Scorpion Moral Welfare and Recreation Center here for a little holiday fun.

These professionals arrived to a rousing applause from a packed house of Soldiers eager to meet some of their favorite golfers.

Several of today's big hitters were in attendance including Cory Pavin, Frank Lickliter II, Donald Hammond, Jerome Kelly, Brian Pavlet, Authur Sellinger and Howard Twitty.

Soldiers of all ranks and military occupational specialties lined up to get autographs. The pros took the time to visit with each Soldier, posing for group photos and sharing golfing experiences with one another.

"We just wanted to let all the

Soldiers know how much we care and [that] we support them," Pavin said.

The golfers weren't the only ones thankful for the visit.

"My dad and I are huge golf fans and it feels great these guys came all the way here for us," said Pvt. Cambron Gabriel, a Whittier, Calif., native and infantryman with 3rd Platoon, Company A, 2nd Battalion, 12th Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

All the attention turned next to the tour professionals showing their ball striking skills.

Not only showing their championship worthy driving skills, the pros proved that trick shots were simply routine. Tour professionals hit golf balls opposite handed, off 1 liter water bottles and even turned the driver upside down to hit a picture perfect drive.

After the driving sessions, the event ended with Soldiers and pros alike gathering to offer thanks to one another and give seasons greetings.

## Arabic Phrase of the Day

*maykhaalif*

**Defined:  
OK**

## Iraq 3-Day Forecast



**Today**

**High: 72  
Low: 39**



**Tomorrow**

**High: 68  
Low: 43**



**Saturday**

**High: 68  
Low: 41**

**Commanding General:** Maj. Gen. Joseph F. Fil, Jr.  
**Public Affairs Officer:** Lt. Col. Scott Bleichwehl  
**Command Information Supervisor:** Master Sgt. Dave Larsen  
**NCOIC, Print Production:** Staff Sgt. Mary Rose  
**Editor:** Sgt. Michael Garrett  
**Staff Writers:** Sgt. Nicole Kojetin, Spc. L.B. Edgar, Pfc. Jeffrey Ledesma, Pfc. Ben Gable, Pfc. Shea Butler, Pfc. William Hatton  
**Contributing Writers:** Sgt. 1st Class Kap Kim, Staff Sgt. Angela McKinzie

Contact the *Daily Charge* at VOIP 242-4093, DSN 318-847-2855 or e-mail [david.j.larsen@mnd-b.army.mil](mailto:david.j.larsen@mnd-b.army.mil).

*The Daily Charge* is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *Daily Charge* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 1st Cavalry Division. All editorial content of the *Daily Charge* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs Office.





(Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kap Kim, 2-1 Cav. Public Affairs)

**Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, now attached to the 2nd BCT, 1st Cavalry Division, enjoy a little game of basketball during down times.**

# A tanker boy can survive

## Tankers

From Page 1

little more bearable, said 1st Sgt. Michael Moser, the senior enlisted soldier in Company A.

"It used to be worse here," said West, a native of Leesville, La. "They've done a lot to make it better."

When there isn't too much going on, the Soldiers will take a few minutes to play a little two-on-two basketball.

Moser makes frequent convoys from Forward Operating Base Falcon to their working area to provide mail, hot meals and other supplies to make their stay on their little "island" just a bit more tolerable. It's

also to provide the Soldiers with a hot meal rather than the Meals Ready to Eat.

According to West, when they come back to FOB Falcon, the Soldiers use that time to not only personally recover from their two-week mission, but also to take care of maintenance issues they might have.

All in all, their mission isn't a bad one, according to the Soldiers who live and operate there.

Some of them admit, when away from FOB Falcon, they seem to find it is a little more relaxed, because, for the most part it belongs to them.

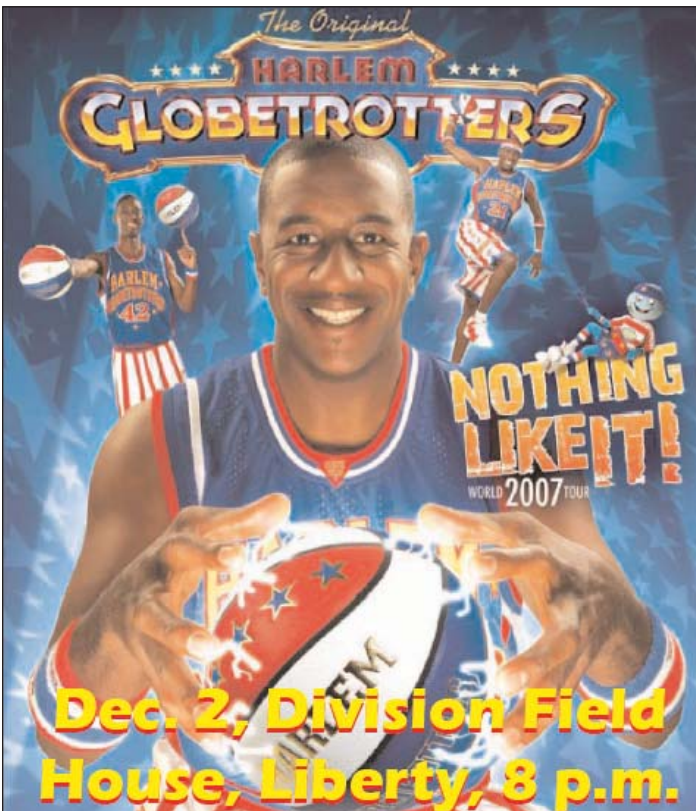
According to West,

their area is run by him and their other platoon sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Jefferey Crossman of Bloomington, Ill. The two take turns operating their area.

They use their forward area to run their patrols throughout their sector in Baghdad. Although, it's not as good as some of the FOBs throughout Baghdad, it's theirs.

Even though their time is brief in their area, Co. A commander, Capt. Derrick Daniels, makes a point to go out and conduct promotion and award ceremonies.

"It's important to do these types of things," he told his troops during a ceremony in which he promoted four.



(Photo by Pfc. William Hatton, 7th MPAD)

## DoD's top NCO visits Soldiers

Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, senior enlisted advisor to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, visited different camps and forward operating bases Nov. 27. His visit to Iraq was geared toward boosting morale and giving Soldiers a better sense of the aim of the leadership in the U.S. armed forces.

# 10th Mountain Soldiers work with IA to secure village Bears

From Page 1

area looking for suspicious activity.

Spc. Katherine Cobb, a female search team member attached to 4-31, spoke of what it was like to be a part of the mission.

"I was extremely excited when I found out I was going on the mission," said Cobb, a native of Holley, N.Y. "I like going on patrols, talking with the local nationals and seeing what they need."

As the Soldiers patrolled the area they saw ten Iraqis placing improvised-explosive devices in culvert locations along Route Malibu. The Iraqi soldiers quickly detained them for further questioning.

"I am happy we found the terrorists who were placing IEDs on the road," said Lt. Ahmed, an Iraqi soldier with 4th Batt., 4th Bde. 6th IA Div. "I am here because I want to help my country, the Iraqi people and my Army friends."

Upon further questioning the Iraq soldiers were given information of terrorists and caches in the local area.

"I am confident with the Iraqi army," said Sgt. Albert Lopez, a 4-31 infantryman from San Pedro, Calif. "I have worked with the Iraqi soldiers since I have been in Iraq and I am confident about what they are doing."

One of the detainees led the U.S. troops and Iraqi soldiers to the weapons caches where items such as spools of wire, two pressure plates, three portable phones, five manuals about portable phones and a large metal object with wheels buried in the ground. They also uncovered a buried container that terrorists frequently use to hide weapons.

"The Soldiers have performed well on this mission as they do on all missions," said Capt. Don Jamosles, Company D, 4-31 commander and native of Salinas, Calif. "My Soldiers have been working well with the Iraqi soldiers on this mission. They (the U.S. Soldiers) provided outer security of the area while the Iraqis conducted searches themselves."

Although the Soldiers successfully established the battle position the enemy threat was still present.

"While I was on top of the house I



(Photo by Staff Sgt. Angela McKinzie, 2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs)

**Capt. Don Jamosles, commander of Company D, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment "Polar Bears," 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (LI), and native of Salinas, Calif., gives a situational report to the 4-31 tactical operations center from Qarghulli Village, Iraq, Nov. 25.**

heard a loud bang so I got down on the ground," said 2nd Lt. Thad Wescott, a native of Sterling, Ill., who serves as a 4-31 platoon leader. "I did not realize I was shot until I saw blood. I am thankful I am alive."

Wescott was shot by an enemy sniper while manning the roof of the house.

Sgt. Sean Sanders, a medic with 4-31 and native of Stewart, Fla., described what it was like to treat Wescott, whose wound was slight.

"Any time I go on a mission I always hope that I do not have to work ... If I do

not have to work that means no one got hurt," Sanders said.

"But since I do have to work I am glad that this is all I have to do. I am always worried (about the Soldiers) because I never want anything bad to happen to them," he added.

The Soldiers of Company D will continue to man the battle position as long as it takes until the area is safe from terrorists.

"We will continue to provide force protection for the battle position until there is freedom of movement along Route Malibu," Jamosles said.